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Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Forty-fifth session
Geneva, 23 June – 2 July 2014
Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda
Listing, classification and packing: miscellaneous

PP83

Transmitted by the expert from the United Kingdom[1]

Introduction

1. PP83 was first included the thirteenth edition of the Model Regulations and was primarily intended to allow the carriage of UN 2813 (water reactive solid, n.o.s.) in small quantities in inner packagings without the threaded closures previously required under P403. The main usage was foreseen as a heating mechanism for ready meals for military personnel, campers and hikers.

2. The original United Kingdom proposal on which PP83 is based (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2001/17) related only to UN 2813 in packing group I. In packing groups II and III, UN 2813 is transported in accordance with P410 which has never included a requirement for threaded closures.

3. However, in the United Kingdom's paper (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/11) to the twenty-first session, an amendment to P403 itself was proposed, and the Sub-Committee decided to replace the requirement for threaded seals with hermetic sealing "e.g. by taping or threaded closures". Furthermore, PP83 was extended to packing groups II and II under P410 on the proposal of the United States (ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/2002/54). These changes were also made in the13th edition.

[1] In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2013-2014 approved by the Committee at its sixth session (refer to ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/84, para. 86 and ST/SG/AC.10/40, para. 14).

4. PP83 is not compulsory for the transport of UN 2813 in combination packages either in P403 or P410. In both packing instructions the use of plastics inner packaging is permitted in quantities far exceeding the PP83 limits.

5. Since the original stated reason for adding PP83 no longer exists and the text does not provide anything that is not covered by the rest of the packing instruction, it appears that PP83 is redundant in both packing instructions and could be deleted.

Proposal

6. In column (9) of the Dangerous Goods List in Chapter 3.2., delete PP83 against the entries for UN2813.

7. In the list of packing instructions at 4.1.4, delete PP83 underP403 and P410.

Justification

8. Editorial removal of surplus text with no effect on transport or safety.